

ation has emancipated our own American women. The women of India and China and Japan need our personal efforts in their behalf, but we needed more the stimulus that has come to us through the missionary work. Since Mrs. Doremus and her sympathizers organized this woman's work, so short a time ago, there have sprung up all over our land a multitude of women's societies. Thousands are organized, not only for the foreign missionary work, but for the home work, for temperance work, for all manner of church and state charities. Woman is fast becoming the almoner of man's best gifts to his fellow-men. While we rejoice in the well being of the multitude of women's missionary societies that have been the direct outcome of this mother in Israel—for it is the oldest of all our women's organizations in America—we will do well to cherish and promote to the utmost of our ability the prosperity of this Union work, which has six mission stations, one hospital, two dispensaries, fifty-seven missionaries and 3,387 pupils dependent upon it, with wider fields of usefulness still opening before it.

This peculiar and all-important work calls for the hearty co-operation of every one interested in aggressive foreign missionary work.

—*The Critics of Missions.* The most persistent critics are the tourists and the statisticians. The former make the journey of the world, and, finding in every port a handful of missionaries, and behind them the great, black mass of untouched heathenism, not unnaturally infer that this speck of whiteness can never overcome this mass of blackness. What reason has the tourist for believing that a thing which is so near nothing can bring to naught a thing so vast and real as Asiatic Buddhism? He forgets that one rope-girded priest converted England, another Germany, another Ireland. He finds that the missionary is a common and uninteresting man, that often his converts are chiefly retainers, that lapses are frequent, and that his methods have apparently little relations to the ends most to be desired. And so he eats the missionary's bread, as a god from Olympus might sup with mortals, accepts his suggestions as to routes, and fills his note-book with borrowed information, which appears in his printed pages as original observations, and

goes away damning the cause with faint praise of the worthy man's zeal. It would be interesting to compare the opinions of book-making tourists with those of the British governors of India, the ministers to Turkey and the admirals of Pacific squadrons; that is, the opinions of casual observers with those of men who thoroughly understand the subject.

But the most confident critic of missions is the statistician, who demolishes them by a sum in arithmetic: the heathen population increases at such a ratio, converts at such a ratio, and the latter never overtake the former. He deems himself under no obligation to explain why the basilicas of Rome became churches, or why England does not still worship at Stonehenge instead of Westminster. It would seem to be not a difficult thing to learn that human progress is not determined by a law of numerical ratio, but there are enough who can think in no other fashion even with history for an object-lesson.—*Dr. Munger in Forum for June.*

—Some ten years ago, Mr. Gladstone translated into beautiful Italian the well-known hymn, *Rock of Ages*. This suggested to Signor Ruggero Bonghi, the Gladstone of the Italian Parliament, the idea of using his pen in diffusing and defending the truth. Among other productions he has written *Vita di Gesu*, *The Life of Christ*, a work based on the evangelists, of warm Christian spirit and heartily endorsed by those who have examined it as far as published. Each number consists of eight superbly printed pages, costing but two cents. On the Corso, the most fashionable street of Rome, are seen in large letters the words, *Vita di Gesu*, *Vita di Gesu*, while near by stands a splendid illustration from the book, Christ talking with the woman of Samaria. It is worth while stating that there will be seventy parts, containing in all eighty-six fine illustrations by the best artists in the kingdom. Such an occurrence has never before taken place in Italy. Mr. Bonghi appears daily in the Senate, and loses nothing of his influence by having written this scholarly and manly life of Christ. The parts, as they come from the press, are eagerly sought for, and read with avidity by thousands who are now getting for the first time the history of the Holy Child.

III.—MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE FROM ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD-FIELD.

India.

[OUR readers will remember that Mr. Wishard, Secretary of the Collegiate International Y. M. C. Association, is spending some years abroad

establishing Y. M. C. A's. in foreign lands and visiting colleges and other schools of learning, performing evangelistic work among the students. His mission thus far has proved a